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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

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~~REFERENCE REPORT~~

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT Proposed Administration Coordination
of State-Owned Enterprises

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SUPPLEMENT 25X1X6

1. In accordance with a proposal of the German Economic Commission, a meeting took place on 11 July 1947 in the Central Administration Building in Berlin to discuss problems resulting from disparate Land-level administration of state-owned enterprises. Participants, comprising mainly chiefs of the Main Administration (Hauptverwaltung) of the different Länder, were as follows:

German Economic Commission: Becker and Lengwinat

FDGB: Schulz

Central Administration for Industry: Schulze, Dr. Ertef, Nass, Mehlhop, Strecker, Gebert, and Herrmann

Brandenburg: Dörlemann, technical official of the main admin.; Popp, commercial official of the main administration

Saxony: Brodde and Grosse, general directors of the main administration

Mecklenburg: Kuntze, Chefdirektor of the main administration, and Müller of the Berlin office of the main administration

Saxony-Anhalt: Kamischke and Collin of the Ministry of Economy; Pupke and Dr. Fritze, Chefdirektors of the main administration; and Dr. Strickstroock of the Berlin office of the main admin.

Mecklenburg: Trampenau, commercial director of the main admin.

2. In discussing administrative and organizational problems relating to the Land-level management, the representatives from each Land and the Province of Saxony-Anhalt set forth their particular conditions and made suggestions for improvement and standardization. General agreement was reached on the following point: most of the difficulties between Land government and main administration have been due to the lack of a clear delimitation of either ownership responsibility or policy and decision-making authority.

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3. Demonstrative of the need for clarification are three questions brought up for debate at this meeting:

- a. What agency actually owns the state-owned enterprises: the Land government or the main administration?
- b. Which should take the initiative in the planned-economy programs for these enterprises, a comprehensive Land-level agency (such as the Economic Commission or the main administration) or the individual firms?
- c. In each main administration, should there be one general director and if so, what should be his responsibilities: should he merely have official leadership, or should he have ultimate responsibility?

Representatives of all Länder except Saxony agreed on two points: 1) that there should be one general director; 2) that he should have official leadership, but not ultimate responsibility. Saxony dissented on both counts, citing the political implications of conferring so much power on one man.

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See Comment: [redacted] the Soviets seek to avoid coordination of state-owned enterprises on a zone-wide scale.

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